

## ***FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET***

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2012

**Agenda Item:** Review of 2012 Wolf Harvest

**Division:** Fish and Wildlife

**Action Needed:** Informational

**Time for this Presentation:** 15 minutes

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### **Background**

The FWP Commission finalized regulations for the Montana wolf hunting and trapping season in July 2012. The 2012 wolf hunting season opened with the archery season on Sept. 1 and will close on Feb. 28, 2013. The first Montana trapping season opens on Dec. 15 and closes on Feb. 28, 2013. The 2012 season framework includes a number of changes from 2011, largely intended to increase wolf harvest and decrease wolf abundance in Montana. In July, the commission directed FWP to provide a review of the wolf harvest after Nov. 25, the end of the regular deer and elk season. The review will include data on harvest numbers, geographic distribution of harvest, consideration of depredation removals, and overall wolf mortality relative to wolf population model projections. Much of the data will be presented to compare harvests during the 2011 and 2012 hunting seasons.